



[17306/101]

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
GROUP ART UNIT 3652**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2004

GROUP 3600

Applicant(s) : George Nelson BLISS et al.
Serial No. : 09/849,006
Filed : May 4, 2001
For : APPARATUS FOR RELEASING ITEMS WITHIN A
 CONFINED SPACE
Examiner : Paul T. Chin
Art Unit : 3652
Confirmation No. : 1810

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with
the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first
class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF,
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, PO Box 1450, Alexandria,
VA 22313-1450 on

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 12, 2004 Reg. No. 42,194

Signature: _____

Clifford A. Ulrich

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

S I R:

In response to the Final Office Action of October 3, 2003, please
amend the above-referenced application without prejudice as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims,
which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

NY01 646040